

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for ~~controlling~~ operating an apparatus to control an external device via a data bus, said method comprising:

detecting, via said apparatus, initiation of ~~one of~~ a disconnection from said external device and a connection to said external device;

~~providing a first command signal to interrupt operation of said external device via a data bus if said initiation of said disconnection from said external device is detected; and~~

~~providing a second command signal to resume the operation of said external device via said data bus if said initiation of said connection to said external device is detected~~

determining, via said apparatus, if said external device is in a play mode after said initiation of said disconnection from said external device is detected;

automatically providing a pause command signal from said apparatus to said external device via said data bus if said external device is determined to be in said play mode; and

disconnecting said apparatus from said external device after providing said pause command signal.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprised of:

detecting, via said apparatus, an interruption of power to said apparatus;

detecting, via said apparatus, a restoration of said power to said apparatus;

determining whether, via said apparatus, if said external device is selected as an initial input of said apparatus responsive to said restoration of said power; and

automatically providing ~~said second~~ a play command signal from said apparatus to said external device via said data bus if said external device is ~~be~~ selected as said initial input.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said data bus includes an IEEE-1394 bus.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said ~~first~~ pause command signal and said ~~second~~ play command signal are AV/C protocol signals.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein:~~
~~said disconnection from said external device is detected responsive to a first user input; and~~

~~said connection to said external device is detected responsive to a second user input~~ further comprised of:

connecting to said external device;

determining if said external device is in a pause mode after connecting to said external device; and

automatically providing a play command signal to said external device via said data bus if said external device is in said pause mode.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said external device is a digital recording/reproduction device.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
input/output means for connecting said apparatus to an external device via a data bus;

processing means for detecting initiation of ~~one of~~ a disconnection from said external device ~~and a connection to said external device; and~~

wherein said input/output means automatically outputs a first pause command signal to ~~interrupt operation of~~ said external device via said data bus if ~~said processing means detects said initiation of said disconnection from said external device, and outputs a second command signal to resume the operation of said external device via said data bus if said processing means detects said initiation of said connection to~~ said apparatus determines that said external device is in a play mode after said initiation of said disconnection from said external device is detected by said processing means.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein:

said processing means determines ~~whether~~ if said external device is selected as an initial input of said apparatus responsive to an interruption and restoration of power to said apparatus; and

said input/output means automatically outputs ~~said second~~ a play command signal to said external device via said data bus after said restoration of said power to said apparatus if said external device is selected as said initial input of said apparatus.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said data bus ~~{30}~~ includes an IEEE-1394 bus.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said ~~first~~ pause command signal and said ~~second~~ play command signal are AV/C protocol signals.

11. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said ~~processing means detects said initiation of said disconnection from said external device responsive to a first user input to said apparatus, and detects said initiation of said connection to said external device responsive to a second user input to said apparatus~~ apparatus connects to said external device via said data bus, and said input/output means automatically outputs a play command signal

to said external device via said data bus if said apparatus determines that said external device is in a pause mode after connecting to said apparatus.

12. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said external device is a digital recording/reproduction device.

13. (currently amended) A television signal receiver, comprising:
an input/output terminal operative to connect said television signal receiver to an external device via a data bus;

a processor operative to detect initiation of ~~one of~~ a disconnection from said external device ~~and a connection to said external device~~; and

wherein said input/output terminal automatically outputs a first pause command signal to ~~interrupt operation of~~ said external device via said data bus if ~~said processor detects said initiation of said disconnection from said external device, and outputs a second command signal to resume the operation of said external device via said data bus if said processor detects said initiation of said connection to~~ said television signal receiver determines that said external device is in a play mode after said initiation of said disconnection from said external device is detected by said processor.

14. (currently amended) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein:

said processor determines ~~whether~~ if said external device is selected as an initial input of said television signal receiver responsive to an interruption and restoration of power to said television signal receiver; and

said input/output terminal automatically outputs ~~said second~~ a play command signal to said external device via said data bus after said restoration of said power to said television signal receiver if said external device is selected as said initial input of said television signal receiver.

15. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 14, wherein said data bus includes an IEEE-1394 bus.

16. (currently amended) The television signal receiver of claim 14, wherein said ~~first~~ pause command signal and said ~~second~~ play command signal are AV/C protocol signals.

17. (currently amended) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein said ~~processor detects said initiation of said disconnection from said external device responsive to a first user input to said television signal receiver, and detects said initiation of said connection to said external device responsive to a second user input to said television signal receiver~~ television signal receiver connects to said external device via said data bus, and said input/output terminal automatically outputs a play command signal to said external device via said data bus if said television signal receiver determines that said external device is in a pause mode after connecting to said television signal receiver.

18. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein said external device is a digital recording/reproduction device.